

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1757
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
EMBARGO OF NUCLEAR INDUSTRY
Ramadass Prof. M;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Nuclear Industry has been struggling with tackling the embargo imposed by foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Research & Development efforts are being spent on import substitution to tackle the embargo;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the efforts to develop reactor of international level technology will take considerable time; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) & (b) Despite embargo, NPCIL with the help of Indian nuclear industry is now capable of constructing Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) in around 5 years which is comparable with the best international practice.
- (c) & (d) Focus of Research and Development efforts now is mainly on development of further stages of indigenous three stage nuclear power programme.
- (e) & (f) Indian Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors technology is of international level. We are also constructing a Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) and India is ahead of several nations in Fast Reactor Technology as well.